

**NEW LONDON COUNTY FARM & HOME BUREAU, INC.**

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To the Environmental Committee regarding SB830

I am a farmer in New London County. I do not own a wood burning furnace, but my neighbors do. I take offense when the legislature discriminates between farmers utilizing these furnaces and other lower income residents. The people that use these economical sources of home heating are not relaxing around a crackling fire roasting s'mores. These are good folks living in New England where wood is plentiful and income is scarce. Their furnaces are not for aesthetics; my neighbors are trying to keep from freezing to death.

Hundreds of the furnace complaints received by the Connecticut DEP, are made by the same few people, about the same few furnaces. A relatively small group of people don't like what they see and smell. By that rational, if a car can't meet the pollution standards, then the state should ban all cars. Fortunately, the state imposes fines and monitors vehicles to ensure compliance with vehicle emission regulations.

The state does not need to ban these appliances; it needs to enforce the current, adequate, regulations. Levy fines if necessary. As the EPA has shown, properly constructed and used outdoor wood burning furnaces are perfectly safe and a godsend to those who can't afford other means of heating their homes.

Sincerely,

Wayne Budney

New London County Farm Bureau President